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## Mailbag

September 27, 2006

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Glendale is a city that has always been proud of its high quality of life. Good air quality is a vital part of that. The proposed ordinance allowing businesses to operate outdoor grills would degrade Glendale's air with chemical air pollution and particulates in smoke ("Outdoor grill ordinance is introduced," Thursday).

Recommend 0

I urge Glendale's City Council members to vote wisely and courageously against this ordinance.

With small and large restaurants, grocery stores, delis, fast-food outlets and banquet halls throughout Glendale all able to grill outside, the impact of this ordinance would be felt by thousands of people. Glendale's citizens and visitors would step outside or even just open a window each day to find that the breezes that had previously brought fresh air would now bring the constant smell of meat and fish grilling mornings, afternoons, evenings and nights, 365 days a year in Glendale's mild climate.

We do not want Glendale to become known as the city that smells like a barbecue. My neighborhood already occasionally has problems with the odor of grilling meat and fish from businesses a few blocks away — much further away than 200 feet. We know personally how unpleasant and unhealthy that air pollution can be.

The commercial outdoor grilling ordinance is bad for the respected city of Glendale. I urge the City Council members to show their wisdom and courageously vote no.

### MARGARET STEPPE

Glendale

#### Trustee's objection does not ring true

Burbank Unified School District board member Paul Krekorian cast the lone dissenting vote on a school board resolution opposing Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's partial takeover of the Los Angeles Unified School District ("Boards uneasy as bill passes," Aug. 30).

He said he voted against the resolution because the controversial state bill giving Villaraigosa shared power for running L.A. Unified has not been finalized by the state legislature.

Krekorian's reason does not ring true. As the democratic contender for the 43rd Assembly District, Krekorian stands an excellent chance of being elected in November and it seems that he does not want to go to Sacramento having cast a vote against the all-powerful Villaraigosa, who was once the Assembly Speaker and a potential generational candidate in 2010.

Even without a final bill, school board members in Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge and four members of the Burbank board who all voted in favor of their resolutions see that Villaraigosa has bypassed the voters in his bid to control L.A.'s schools. It is clearly an unmitigated power play by Villaraigosa to get what he wants to further his political career.

It's a shame that politics have disintegrated into cronyism. Is there no politician who votes his conscience anymore?

### MOLLY SHORE

Burbank

